SFG 2023 | LEVEL 1 | Test #5 – Solutions | ForumIAS

Q.1) We adopted parliamentary democracy based on the British model, but how does our model differ from that model?
1. As regards legislation, the British Parliament is supreme or sovereign but in India, the power of the Parliament to legislate is limited.
2. In India, matters related to the constitutionality of the Amendment of an Act of the Parliament are referred to the Constitution Bench by the Supreme Court.
Select the correct answer using the code given below.
a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans) c
Exp) Option c is the correct answer.
Statement 1 is correct. Parliamentary **sovereignty is a principle of the UK** constitution. It makes Parliament the supreme legal authority in the UK, which can create or end any law. Generally, the courts cannot overrule its legislation and no Parliament can pass laws that future Parliaments cannot change.
Indian Parliament is not a sovereign body like the British Parliament. The Indian Parliament may, in exercise of its constituent power, amend by way of addition, variation or repeal any provision of the Constitution in accordance with the procedure laid down for the purpose. However, the Parliament cannot amend those provisions which form the 'basic structure' of the Constitution. This was ruled by the Supreme Court in the Kesavananda Bharati case (1973).
Statement 2 is correct. In India, matters related to the **constitutionality of an amendment of an act** of the Parliament are referred to the **Constitution Bench by the Supreme Court.** A Constitution Bench is a bench of the Supreme Court having five or more judges on it. These benches are not a routine phenomenon. A vast majority of cases before the Supreme Court are heard and decided by a bench of two judges (called a Division Bench), and sometimes of three. Constitution Benches are set up when the case involves a substantial question of law pertaining to the interpretation of the Constitution (Article 145(3) of the Constitution, which mandates that such matters be heard by a bench of not less than five judges).
Presently, Constitution Benches are set up on an ad hoc basis as and when the need arises. The idea behind a Constitution Bench is clear: it is constituted in rare cases to decide important questions of fact or legal and/or constitutional interpretation.
Source) M Laxmikanth, 6th edition, Chapter 3 Salient features of the Constitution\
https://www.barandbench.com/columns/constituting-constitution-benches-of-the-supreme-court-an-analysis
UPSC CSE 2021

Q.2) With reference to 'Zero Hour', consider the following statements:
1. In India, the proceedings of every parliamentary sitting generally start with Zero Hour.
2. It allows the Members of the Parliament to raise important matters without any prior notice.
3. It is nowhere mentioned in the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
a) 3 only
b) 2 only
c) 2 and 3 only
d) 1, 2 and 3

www.freeupscmaterial.org

Ans) c

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The first hour of every parliamentary sitting is slotted for **Question hour**. During this time, the members ask questions and the ministers usually give answers. **Zero hour** is the time gap **between the question hour and the agenda**. The zero hour starts immediately after the question hour and lasts until the agenda for the day is taken up.

Statement 2 is correct: Zero Hour is an informal device available to the members of the Parliament to **raise matters without any prior notice**.

Statement 3 is correct: Unlike the question hour, the zero hour is **not mentioned in the Rules of Procedure.** It is an Indian innovation in the field of parliamentary procedures and has been in existence since 1962.

Source: No. 12. Short Duration Discussions.pmd (loksabhaph.nic.in)

Questions: Lok Sabha

M LAXMIKANT

Q.3) Consider the following pairs regarding Closure Motion:

Types of Closure Motion	**Description**
1. Simple Closure	a member moves it when the 'matter having been sufficiently discussed be now put to vote'
2. Closure by Compartments	clauses of a bill or a lengthy resolution are grouped into parts before the debate and the entire part is put to vote
3. Guillotine Closure	only important clauses are taken up for debate and voting and the intervening clauses are taken as passed.
4. Kangaroo Closure	undiscussed clauses of a bill or a resolution are also put to vote along with the discussed ones

How many pairs given above are correctly matched?

a) Only one pair

b) Only two pairs

c) Only three pairs

d) All four pairs

Ans) b

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Closure motion is moved by a member to **cut short the debate on a matter** before the House. If the motion is approved by the House, debate is stopped forthwith and the matter is put to vote.

Pair 1 is correctly matched: Simple Closure is closing debate when a member moves it when the 'matter having been **sufficiently discussed** be now put to vote'.

www.freeupscmaterials.org

Pair 2 is correctly matched: Closure by Compartment happens when the clauses of a bill or a **lengthy resolution** are **grouped into parts** before the commencement of the debate. The debate covers the part as a whole and the entire part is put to vote.
Pair 3 is incorrectly matched: Guillotine Closure is one when the undiscussed clauses of a bill or a resolution are also put to vote along with the discussed ones **due to want of time** (as the time **allotted for the discussion is over**).
Pair 4 is incorrectly matched: Kangaroo Closure happens only when **important clauses are taken up for debate and voting** and the intervening clauses are skipped over and taken as passed.
Source: M laxmikant (Chap- 22: Parliament)

Q.4) Which of the following provisions are enshrined in the Indian Constitution to ensure independence and impartiality of the office of Lok Sabha Speaker?
1. S/he can be removed by a resolution passed by the Lok Sabha by an effective majority.
2. S/he has not been given any voting power in the Lok Sabha, except on his removal motion.
3. After being appointed as Speaker, he/she resigns from his/her party to remain politically neutral.
4. The salaries and allowances of the Speaker are charged on the Consolidated Fund of India.
Select the correct answer from the code given below:
a) 1 and 2 only
b) 2 and 3 only
c) 1 and 4 only
d) 3 and 4 only

Ans) c
Exp) Option c is the correct answer.
As the office of the Speaker is vested with great prestige, position and authority, independence and impartiality become its sine qua non. A number of safeguards are taken to ensure the independence and impartiality of the office of the Speaker.
Statement 1 is correct: The Speaker is provided with a security of tenure. He can be removed only by a **resolution passed by the Lok Sabha by an effective majority** (i.e., a majority of all the then members of the House) and not by an ordinary majority (i.e., a majority of the members present and voting in the House). This motion of removal can be considered and discussed only when it has the support of at least 50 members.
Statement 2 is incorrect: The Speaker cannot vote on a bill in the Lok Sabha in the first instance. **He can exercise a casting vote in the event of a tie.** This makes the position of Speaker impartial.
Statement 3 is incorrect: In **Britain**, the Speaker is strictly a nonparty man. There is a convention that the **Speaker has to resign from his party and remain politically neutral.** This healthy convention is **not fully established in India** where the Speaker does not resign from the membership of his party on his election to the exalted office.
Statement 4 is correct: The salaries and allowances of the Speaker are fixed by Parliament, and they are charged on the Consolidated Fund of India (I.e., not subjected to the Parliamentary approval).
Knowledge Base:
Other provisions to ensure the independence and impartiality of the office of the Speaker:
1) His salaries and allowances are fixed by Parliament. They are charged on the Consolidated Fund of India and thus are not subject to the annual vote of Parliament.
2) His work and conduct cannot be discussed and criticised in the Lok Sabha except on a substantive motion.

www.forumiasmaterials.org

3) His powers of regulating procedure or conducting business or maintaining order in the House are not subject to the jurisdiction of any Court.

Source: Indian Polity by Laxmikant – 6th Edition – Chapter 22 Parliament.

Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding 'Lesser Florican':
1. They are endemic to Eastern African continent and fly to India only during winters.
2. The breeding and wintering sites of the bird requires sufficient grass cover.
3. It is one of the priority species for recovery under Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitat scheme.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
a) 1 and 2 only
b) 2 and 3 only
c) 3 only
d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans) b

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

A recent study has for the first time **tracked the longest in-country migration route of lesser Floricans** from Rajasthan to Maharashtra's Ahmednagar district.

Statement 1 is incorrect. The **lesser florican** (Sypheotides indicus), also known as **the likh or kharmore** is **endemic to the Indian Subcontinent only. They are not found in African continent.** The bird breeds mainly in the central and western parts of India. It is found in India throughout the year and not just in winters.

Lesser florican is the **smallest of India's three resident bustards** (the other two are Bengal florican and great Indian bustard). It occurs in **dry (tall) grasslands** with scattered bushes, scrub, and in agricultural fields of millet, cotton, and some cereal crops.

Statement 2 is correct. The lesser florican has separate breeding and wintering sites with rainfall and land-use intrinsically linked to the sprightly florican's breeding habits. **Sufficient grass cover is particularly important during the breeding season**. Large trees with big canopy **are not desirable in the florican habitat.**

Statement 3 is correct. The lesser florican was included as one of the **priority species for recovery** by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) in **2009,** under the **scheme of Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitat.**

Knowledge Base:

Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats' (IDWH): It is an on-going Centrally Sponsored Scheme in which financial assistance is provided to State/UT Governments for protection and conservation of wildlife and its habitats in Protected Areas (PAs) as well as outside PAs and also for the recovery programmes of the critically endangered species.

Components of the scheme:

1) Support to Protected Areas (National Parks, Wildlife Sanctuaries, Conservation Reserves and Community Reserves)
2) Protection of Wildlife Outside Protected Areas
3) Recovery programmes for saving critically endangered species and habitats

Source: Longest in-country migration route of lesser florican from Rajasthan tracked-ForumIAS Blog
Lesser florican on verge of extinction in Madhya Pradesh (mongabay.com)
Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats – Vikaspedia

www.forumiascmaterials.org

Q.6) Consider the following statements with reference to the Public Accounts Committee:
1. The committee has the equal number of members from both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha.
2. The committee examines the annual audit reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India.
3. Its recommendations are binding on the ministers.
4. Public account committee is concerned with the questions of policy in broader sense.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
a) 2 only
b) 1 and 3 only
c) 2 and 3 only
d) 2 and 4 only

Ans) a
Exp) Option a is the correct answer.
Statement 1 is incorrect: Public account committee was set up first in 1921 under the provisions of the Government of India Act of 1919 and has since been in existence. **At present public account committee consists of 22 members (15 from the Lok Sabha and 7 from the Rajya Sabha).** The members of public account committee are elected by the Parliament every year from amongst its members according to the principle of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote. Thus, all parties get due representation in it.
Statement 2 is correct: The function of public account committee is to examine the annual audit reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG), which are laid before the Parliament by the President. Audit report on appropriation accounts, audit report on finance accounts and audit report on public undertakings are the three audit reports submitted by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) to the president.
Statement 3 and 4 are incorrect: Public account committees' effectiveness is limited by the following:
1) **It is not concerned with the questions of policy in broader sense.**
2) It conducts a post-mortem examination of accounts (showing the expenditure already incurred).
3) It cannot intervene in the matters of day-to-day administration
4) **Its recommendations are advisory and not binding on the ministries.**
5) It is not vested with the power of disallowance of expenditures by the departments.
Source: Indian polity by M Laxmikanth pdf 6th edition. Chapter name-Parliamentary committees. Page no-580 and 581.

Q.7) Which of the following are among the participants to elect the members to the 'Legislative Council' of a State?
1. Members of local bodies in the State.
2. All graduates of three years standing and residing within the State.
3. Members of the Legislative Assembly of the State.
4. Members of Lok Sabha elected from the State.
5. Members of Rajya Sabha nominated from the State.
Select the correct answer using the code given below:
a) 1, 2 and 3 only
b) 2, 4 and 5 only
c) 1, 2, 4 and 5 only
d) 1, 3, 4 and 5 only

Ans) a
Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

www.freeupsmaterials.org

There is no uniformity in the organization of State legislatures. Most of the States have a unicameral system, while others have a bicameral system. At present, only six States have two Houses (bicameral). These are Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Maharashtra and Karnataka.
In the States having bicameral system, the State legislature consists of the Governor, the Legislative Council and the Legislative Assembly. The Legislative Council (Vidhan Parishad) is the upper house (second chamber or house of elders), while the Legislative Assembly (Vidhan Sabha) is the lower house (first chamber or popular house).
Unlike the members of the Legislative Assembly, the members of the Legislative Council are indirectly elected. The maximum strength of the council is fixed at one-third of the total strength of the assembly and the minimum strength is fixed at 40.

Manner of Election

Of the total number of members of a legislative council:

1) 1/3 are elected by the members of local bodies in the State like municipalities, district boards, etc., **(Hence Option 1 is correct)**
2) 1/12 are elected by graduates of three years standing and residing within the State, **(Hence Option 2 is correct)**
3) 1/12 are elected by teachers of three years standing in the State, not lower in standard than secondary school,
4) 1/3 are elected by the members of the Legislative Assembly of the State from amongst persons who are not members of the assembly, and **(Hence Option 3 is correct)**
5) the remainder are nominated by the Governor from amongst persons who have a special knowledge or practical experience of literature, science, art, cooperative movement and social service.

Members of Lok Sabha elected from the State and Members of Rajya Sabha nominated from the State **do not participate in the elections of the State Legislative Council. (Hence Options 4 and 5 are incorrect)**
Thus, 5/6 of the total number of members of a Legislative Council are indirectly elected and 1/6 are nominated by the Governor. The members are elected in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of a single transferable vote.
Source: Pages 711-715, M. Laxmikant 6th Edition.pdf

Q.8) Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the differences/similarities between the Presidential form of Government and the Parliamentary form of Government?
1. The Executive is responsible to the legislature in only Parliamentary form of government and not in Presidential form of government.
2. Unlike in Parliamentary system, President cannot dissolve the lower house under Presidential system.
3. In both Parliamentary system and Presidential system, the governments can be removed through a vote of no-confidence.
Select the correct answer using the codes given below:
a) 1 and 2 only
b) 1 only
c) 2 and 3 only
d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans) a

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

A Presidential system is also called a **congressional system**. It refers to a system of governance in which **the President** is the Chief Executive and is **elected directly** by the people. Whereas, A Parliamentary form of democracy refers to a system of governance in which the citizens elect representatives to the legislative Parliament.

www.freeupscmaterials.org

Statement 1 is correct: The **executive is accountable** to the **legislature only** in parliamentary form of government. There is concentration and fusion of powers between the Legislative and the Executive. Whereas, **in presidential form** of government, the **executive is not accountable** to the legislature. Powers are separated and the Legislature, the Executive and the Judiciary **work separately**.

Statement 2 is correct: In **parliamentary form** of government, the president can **dissolve the lower house** and there is dual executive as leader of the state and leader of the government are different. But **in presidential form** of government, the President **cannot dissolve** the lower house. There is a single executive, as the leader of the state and the leader of the government is the same.

Statement 3 is incorrect: President in Parliamentary form has a fixed tenure and cannot be removed by a vote of no-confidence. In a Parliamentary form of government, the t**enure of the legislature and the executive are not fixed**. If no confidence motion is passed in the house the government will be replaced with a new government. As the Prime Minister's tenure depends upon the majority support in the House, whenever a government fails to prove its majority, the Prime Minister is in no other position but to resign and the entire Council of Ministers have to step down from power along with him.

While in a Presidential form of government the tenures of both the Legislature and the Executive are fixed. Neither of them can be removed before the end of their tenure. Elections are held regularly and cannot be disturbed by passing of no-confidence motion or other procedures.

Source: M laxmikant (Ch 22- Parliament)

Difference between Presidential and Parliamentary form of Government (ipleaders.in)

Difference Between Parliamentary and Presidential Form of Government - GeeksforGeeks

Q.9) With reference to powers of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, consider the following statements:

1. Both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha exercises control over executive by introducing No-confidence motion.
2. Under Indian Constitution, Rajya Sabha has no powers with regards to discontinuance of resolution of national emergency.
3. Lok Sabha can reject all or any of the recommendations of the Rajya Sabha regarding the Money Bill.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 1 and 3 only
c) 2 only
d) 2 and 3 only

Ans) d

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Under the Constitution, the Parliament of India consists of three parts viz, the President, the Council of States and the House of the People. In 1954, the Hindi names 'Rajya Sabha' and 'Lok Sabha' were adopted by the Council of States and the House of People respectively. The Rajya Sabha is the Upper House (Second Chamber or House of Elders) and the Lok Sabha is the Lower House (First Chamber or Popular House). The former represents the states and union territories of the Indian Union, while the latter represents the people of India as a whole.

Statement 1 is incorrect: Article 75 of the Constitution says that the council of ministers shall be collectively responsible to the Lok Sabha. It means that the ministry stays in office so long as it enjoys confidence of the majority of the members of the Lok Sabha. In other words, the **Lok Sabha, not Rajya Sabha can remove the ministry from office by passing a no-confidence motion**.

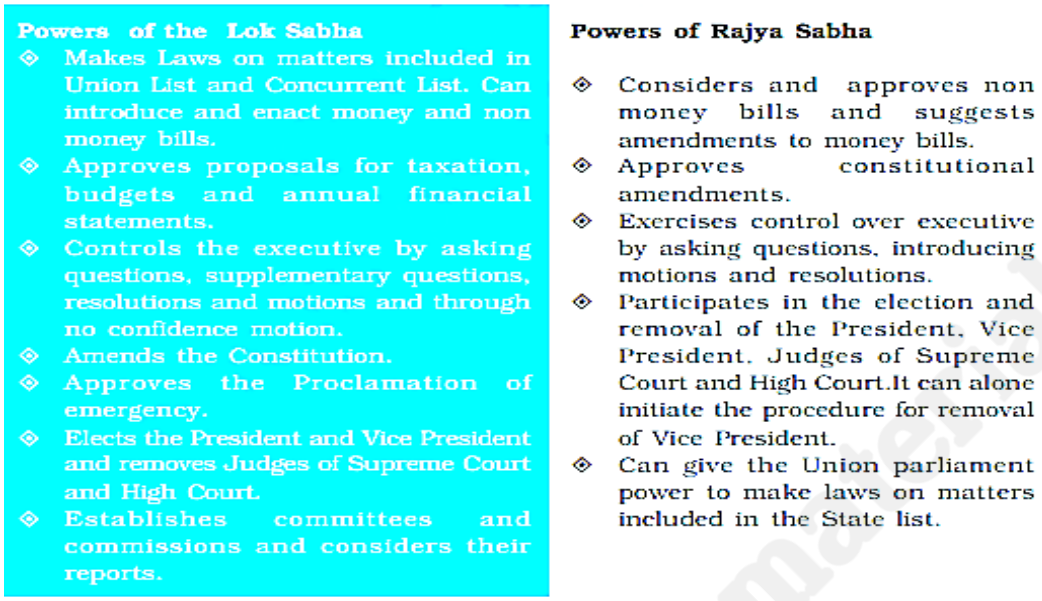
No confidence motion can be introduced **only in the lower house** i.e., Lok Sabha. Rajya Sabha is not permitted to introduce no confidence motion against the Council of Ministers.

Statement 2 is correct: Under Article 352, the President can declare a national emergency when the security of India or a part of it is threatened by war or external aggression or armed rebellion.

www.freeupscmaterials.org

A resolution for discontinuance of the national emergency can be passed **only in the Lok Sabha**. Rajya Sabha has no powers with regard to discontinuance of National Emergency. The 44th Amendment Act of 1978 provided that, where one-tenth of the total number of members of the Lok Sabha give a written notice to the Speaker (or to the President if the House is not in session), a special sitting of the House should be held within 14 days for the purpose of considering a resolution disapproving the continuation of the proclamation.

Statement 3 is correct: As per the provisions of article 109 of the Constitution, the Rajya Sabha has limited powers with respect to Money Bills. **A Money Bill after having been passed by the Lok Sabha, and sent to Rajya Sabha for its recommendations, has to be returned to Lok Sabha by the Rajya Sabha, with in a period of fourteen days** from the date of its receipt, with or without recommendations. **It is open for the Lok Sabha, to either accept or reject all or any of the recommendations of the Rajya Sabha.**


Powers of the Lok Sabha
Makes Laws on matters included in Union List and Concurrent List. Can introduce and enact money and non money bills.
Approves proposals for taxation, budgets and annual financial statements.
Controls the executive by asking questions, supplementary questions, resolutions and motions and through no confidence motion.
Amends the Constitution.
Approves the Proclamation of emergency.
Elects the President and Vice President and removes Judges of Supreme Court and High Court.
Establishes committees and commissions and considers their reports.
Powers of Rajya Sabha
Considers and approves non money bills and suggests amendments to money bills.
Approves constitutional amendments.
Exercises control over executive by asking questions, introducing motions and resolutions.
Participates in the election and removal of the President, Vice President, Judges of Supreme Court and High Court.It can alone initiate the procedure for removal of Vice President.
Can give the Union parliament power to make laws on matters included in the State list.

Difference of powers between Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha

Source: NCERT Class XI: Indian Constitution at work (Chapter 5: Legislature)
M laxmikant (Chapter 22- Parliament)

Q.10) With reference to 'Global Gateway Plan', consider the following statements:
1. The plan aims to invest globally in infrastructure, digital and climate projects.
2. Global Gateway projects will be developed and delivered through Team Europe Initiatives under the European Commission.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans) c

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The European Commission has announced an international infrastructure plan called the "Global Gateway Plan".

Statement 1 is correct. Global Gateway Plan aims to invest €300 billion ($340 billion) globally in **infrastructure, digital and climate projects by 2027.** This will help strengthen health, education and

www.freeupscmaterials.org

research systems across the world. The investment will be made in projects that can be delivered with high standards, good governance, transparency while ensuring financial sustainability at the same time.
Statement 2 is correct. The Plan will be implemented in a **Team Europe** approach that brings together funding by the EU, its Member States and European financial institutions. The decision has been taken by the **European Commission**'s new European strategy to boost smart, clean and secure links in digital, energy and transport, as per the press release.
Source: EU plans €300 billion infrastructure fund to counter China's BRI -ForumIAS Blog
EU launches €300 billion 'Global Gateway' plan to rival China in boosting global infra (republicworld.com)

Q.11) Consider the following statements:
1. In India, there is no law restricting the candidates from contesting in Lok Sabha election from three constituencies at a time.
2. In 1991 Lok Sabha Election, Shri Devi Lal contested from three Lok Sabha constituencies.
3. As per the existing rules, if a candidate contests in one Lok Sabha election from many constituencies, his/her party should bear the cost of bye-elections to the constituencies vacated by him/her in the event of his/her winning in all the constituencies.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) 1 and 3 only
d) 2 and 3 only

Ans) b
Exp) Option b is the correct answer.
Statement 1 is incorrect. In 1996, the **Representation of the People Act, 1951,** was amended which restricted the number of seats one candidate could contest in one election to two constituencies. And whenever they have won in more than one, the candidates can retain only one, forcing by polls in the rest.
Statement 2 is correct. In 1991 Lok Sabha Election, **Shri Devi Lal contested from three Lok Sabha constituencies.** (Although such information need not be remembered by students, it can be validated by eliminating other statements).
Statement 3 is incorrect. There is **no such provision** that if a candidate contests in one Lok Sabha elections from many constituencies, then his/her party should bear the cost of bye-elections to the constituencies vacated by him/her in the event of him/her winning in all the constituencies. In every case, the Election Commission of India (ECI) bears the cost of elections/bye-elections in all the constituencies in Lok Sabha and assembly elections as well.
Source) https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/bar-people-from-contesting-from-two-seats-election-commission/articleshow/55960421.cms
UPSC CSE 2021

Q.12) With reference to 'Money bills', consider the following statements:
1. They can be introduced either by a minister or by a private member.
2. They requires the certification of the speaker whenever transmitted to the Rajya Sabha.
3. Defeat of Money bills introduced in Lok Sabha leads to the resignation of the government.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
a) 1 only
b) 1 and 2 only
c) 3 only
d) 2 and 3 only

www.freeUPSCmaterials.org

Ans) d

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Article 110 of the Constitution deals with the definition of **Money bills**. Money bills are concerned with financial matters like taxation, public expenditure. Whereas, the bills mentioned in **Articles 117 (1) and Article 117 (3) are financial bills.**

Statement 1 is incorrect: Ordinary bills can be introduced either by a minister or by a private member. Whereas, **Money bill** can be introduced **only by a minister**. It cannot be introduced by any private member.

Statement 2 is correct: Money bills always requires the certification of the speaker whenever transmitted to the Rajya Sabha. Whereas, **ordinary bills** do **not require the certification** of the speaker when transmitted to the Rajya Sabha (if it has originated in the Lok Sabha).

Statement 3 is correct: Money bill's defeat in the Lok Sabha **leads to the resignation of the government.** Defeat of non-Money bills introduced by a minister in Lok Sabha may lead to the resignation of the government. But if ordinary or non-money bill is introduced by any private member of the parliament then defeat will not lead to the resignation of the government.

Source: M Laxmikanth (Chapter- 22, Parliament)

Q.13) What are the ways through which Parliament controls the executive?

1. Not passing Motion of Thanks
2. Passing of cut motion
3. Anti-defection law
4. Half-an-hour discussion
5. Removal of Deputy-speaker of Lok Sabha

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

a) 1 and 3 only
b) 1, 2 and 4 only
c) 2, 3 and 4 only
d) 1, 3 and 5 only

Ans) b

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The Constitution of India established a parliamentary form of government in which the **Executive is responsible** to the Parliament for its policies and acts. The **Parliament exercises control over the Executive through question-hour, zero hour, half-an-hour discussion, short duration discussion, calling attention motion, adjournment motion, no-confidence motion, censure motion and other discussions**. It also supervises the activities of the Executive with the help of its committees like committee on government assurance, committee on subordinate legislation, committee on petitions, etc

Statement 1 is correct: The first session after each general election and the first session of every fiscal year is addressed by the President. In this address, the President outlines the policies and programmes of the government in the preceding year and ensuing year. This address of the President, is discussed in both the Houses of Parliament on a motion called the 'Motion of Thanks'. At the end of the discussion, the motion is put to vote. This **motion must be passed in the House. Otherwise, it amounts to the defeat of the government.** This inaugural speech of the President is an occasion available to the members of Parliament to raise discussions and debates to examine and criticise the government and administration for its lapses and failures.

Statement 2 is correct: The ministers are collectively responsible to the Parliament in general and to the Lok Sabha in particular. The Lok Sabha can also **express lack of confidence in the government by passing**

www.upscmaterials.org

a Cut Motion. It is a power given to the members of the Lok Sabha that enables its members to oppose any demand in a Finance Bill proposed by a government.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The anti-defection law punishes individual Members of Parliament (MPs) for leaving one party for another. It is intended to regulate the defecting MPs. It does not regulate or control executive in any manner.

Statement 4 is correct: Through Half-an-Hour Discussion, Parliament can **discuss a matter of sufficient public importance**, which has been subjected to a lot of debate and the answer to which needs elucidation on a matter of fact. This keeps executive accountable to the Parliament.

Statement 5 is incorrect: **Deputy Speaker is not the part of the executive** and hence, his/her removal does not impact Parliaments control over executive. The position of Deputy Speaker is usually offered to opposition party in India and he acts as a chairperson in the public accounts committee which functions as checks on the executive.

Source: M Laxmikanth (Chapter-22, Parliament)

Anti-defection annual conference (prsindia.org)

Q.14) In which of the following cases, a member of Parliament will be liable to be disqualified on the ground of defection according to the Tenth Schedule?

1. If he/she voluntarily gives up membership of his party after being elected as Presiding officer of house.
2. If he/she votes contrary to any direction issued by his political party.
3. If he/she, as a nominated member, joins any political party within six months of taking his seat.
4. If he/she, as an independent member joins any political party after being elected.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

a) 1 and 3 only

b) 2 only

c) 2 and 4 only

d) 2, 3 and 4 only

Ans) c

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The Tenth Schedule contains the provisions with respect to the **disqualification of members** of Parliament and the state legislatures **on the ground of defection**. It has been made to stop the horse trading in the politics and increase the faith in the democracy.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The disqualification on the ground of defection does **not apply** if a member, after being **elected as the presiding officer** of the House, voluntarily gives up the membership of his party. This exemption has been provided in view of the dignity and impartiality of this office.

Statement 2 is correct: A member of a House belonging to any political party b**ecomes disqualified** for being a member of the House, if he voluntarily gives up his membership of such political party or **he votes or abstains from voting in such House contrary to any direction issued by his political party without obtaining prior permission of such party.**

Statement 3 is incorrect: If a nominated members joins any political party **within six months of taking his seat**, he will **not** be considered as a case of defection. A nominated member of a House becomes disqualified for being a member of the House if he joins any political party after the expiry of six months from the date on which he takes his seat in the House.

Statement 4 is correct: An independent member of a House (elected without being set up as a candidate by any political party) **becomes disqualified** to remain a member of the House if he **joins any political party after such election**. There is no any provision of getting approval from president before joining any party to escape from defection.

Source: M laxmikant (Chapter 76, Anti defection law)

www.forumiasmaterials.org

Q.15) Consider the following statements regarding 'She is a Changemaker' Programme:
1. It is a pan-India scheme that aims to impart vocational training to women in various technical crafts.
2. It has been launched by the National Commission for Women.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans) b
Exp) Option b is the correct answer.
Statement 1 is incorrect. The 'She is a Changemaker Programme' programme aims to undertake **capacity building of women political leaders** and improve their **decision-making** and communication skills including, oration, writing etc. The programme is for women representatives at all levels, **gram panchayats to parliament member**s and political workers including office bearers of National/State political parties.
The programme will benefit every woman who wishes to make an identity for herself in politics and help her to claim her rightful space in politics.
Statement 2 is correct. National Commission for Women (NCW) has launched a **pan-India** capacity building programme named 'She is a Changemaker'. The programme will be undertaken by NCW in association with region-wise training institutes.
Source: NCW Launches a Pan-India Capacity Building Programme 'She is a Changemaker' for Women in Politics-ForumIAS Blog

Q.16) A Joint Session of Parliament can be called for which of the following types of bills?
1. Money bill
2. Ordinary bill
3. Financial bills (I)
4. Constitutional Amendment bills under Article 368
Select the correct answer using the code given below:
a) 1, 2 and 3 only
b) 2, 3 and 4 only
c) 2 and 3 only
d) 2 only

Ans) c
Exp) Option c is the correct answer.
Joint sitting is an **extraordinary machinery** provided by the Constitution aimed to maintain a much-needed **synergy between the two houses** of the Parliament. **Article 118** provides that President of India may after consultation with the chair of the Rajya Sabha and the Speaker of Lok Sabha may make rules for **procedure of joint session** of parliament.
Statements 2 and 3 are correct:
1) **Ordinary Bill and Financial bills** (I) are sent for the President's assent only after being approved by both the Houses. In case of a deadlock due to disagreement between the two Houses, a joint sitting of both the houses can be summoned by the president to resolve the deadlock.

Statements 1 and 4 are incorrect:
1) **Money bill** is sent for the President's assent even if it is approved by only Lok Sabha. There is no chance of any disagreement between the two Houses as the Rajya Sabha has limited rights over money bills. Hence, there is no provision of joint sitting of both the Houses in this regard.

www.freeupscmaterials.org

2) **Constitution Amendment Bill**: As per Article 368, the Indian Constitution can be amended by both houses of parliament by 2/3rd majority. In case of disagreement between both houses, there is no provision to summon joint session of parliament.

Knowledge Base:

When can Joint Sitting be called?

A Joint Sitting can be called under any one of the following three situations after a bill has been passed by one House and transmitted to the other House:

1. if the bill is rejected by the other House;
2. if the Houses have finally disagreed as to the amendments to be made in the bill; or
3. if more than six months have elapsed from the date of the receipt of the bill by the other House without the bill being passed by it.

In the above three situations, the president can summon both the Houses to meet in a joint sitting for the purpose of deliberating and voting on the bill.

Source: M laxmikant (Chapter 22, Parliament)

[Answered] joint session of the two houses of the Parliament. -ForumIAS Blog

Q.17) With reference to Rajya Sabha, consider the following statements:

1. Rajya Sabha can authorise the Parliament to create new All-India Services.
2. A resolution for the removal of the Vice-President can be introduced only in the Rajya Sabha.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans) c

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The Rajya Sabha is the upper house of the bicameral Parliament of India. As of 2021 it has a maximum membership of 245, of which 233 are elected by the legislatures of the states and union territories using single transferable votes through open ballots, while the president can appoint 12 members for their contributions to art, literature, science, and social services.

Statement 1 is correct: Under Article 312 of Indian Constitution, Rajya Sabha can authorise the Parliament to create new All-India Services common to both the Centre and the states.

Statement 2 is correct: Rajya Sabha alone can initiate a move for the removal of the vice-president. In other words, a resolution for the removal of the vice-president can be introduced only in the Rajya Sabha and not in the Lok Sabha (Article 67).

Source: M Laxmikanth (Ch 22: Parliament)

NCERT Class XI: Indian Constitution at work (Chapter 5: Legislature)

Q.18) With reference to Parliamentary Elections after Independence, consider the following statements:

1. The highest number of seats ever in any election to Lok Sabha was won by the Janta party in 1984.
2. Seventeenth Lok Sabha of 2019 has the highest percentage of women Member of Parliaments since Independence.
3. The 10th Lok Sabha election of 1991 recorded the highest voter participations since independence.
4. The first ever coalition government in Centre was formed by Communist Party of India (M) in 1977.

www.freeupsc.materials.org

Which of the statement given above is/are correct?
a) 1 and 2 only
b) 2 only
c) 1, 2 and 4 only
d) 3 and 4 only

Ans) b
Exp) Option b is the correct answer.
Statement 1 is incorrect: Congress party under the leadership of Rajiv Gandhi won the highest seat ever (**Congress 415)** in the general election of Eighth Lok Sabha (1984). Riding on the wave of sympathy in response to assassination of Indira Gandhi, the Congress party under Rajiv Gandhi's leadership (son of Indira Gandhi) came to power in a landslide victory.
Statement 2 is correct: In the general election of seventeenth Lok Sabha (2019) election, out of the 716 women candidates who contested elections, 78 have been elected, which is 14% of the house. This is higher than sixteenth Lok Sabha election (2014) where there were 62-woman MPs in the house and the highest ever since independence.
Statement 3 is incorrect: The general election of **17th Lok Sabha (2019) elections registered a record voter turnout of 67.11%, highest since the independence.** This record breached the previous turnout of 65.95% voting notched up in 2014, according to tentative data released by the Election Commission (EC). Voting was the lowest ever in parliamentary elections of 1991 with just 53 per cent of the electorate exercising their right to vote.
Statement 4 is incorrect: A coalition government is a form of government in which political parties cooperate to form a government. **Janta party (not the Communist Party of India (M)) formed the first ever coalition government in Centre under the leadership of Morarji Desai** (1977-1977). But the first coalition government to complete its full-term was the Atal Bihari Vajpayee-led National Democratic Alliance from 1999.
Source: M Laxmikanth (Chapter 71, Elections; Chapter 75, Coalition government)
History of Indian Parliament Elections (Lok Sabha)- Factly

Q.19) Arrange the following items in the correct order of the passing of an ordinary bill in the Parliament:
1. Consideration Stage
2. Stage of General Discussion
3. Third Reading
4. Assent of the President
5. Publication of the bill in the Gazette
Select the correct answer from the code given below:
a) 1-2-3-4-5
b) 2-1-3-4-5
c) 5-2-1-3-4
d) 5-1-2-3-4

Ans) c
Exp) Option c is the correct answer.
A bill is a proposal for legislation and it becomes an act or law when duly enacted. Every ordinary bill has to pass through the following five stages in the Parliament before it finds a place on the Statute Book:
1) First Reading - The **introduction of the bill and its publication in the Gazette** constitute the first reading of the bill. No discussion on the bill takes place at this stage.

www.freeupscmaterials.org

The member who wants to introduce the bill has to ask for the leave of the House. When the House grants leave to introduce the bill, the mover of the bill introduces it by reading its title and objectives. Later, the bill is published in the Gazette of India. If a bill is published in the Gazette before its introduction, leave of the House to introduce the bill is not necessary.

2) Second Reading - During this stage, the bill receives not only the general but also the detailed scrutiny and assumes its final shape. This stage involves **three more sub-stages, namely, stage of general discussion, committee stage and consideration stage.**

(a) **Stage of General Discussion** - The principles of the bill and its provisions are discussed generally, but the details of the bill are not discussed.

(b) Committee Stage - This committee examines the bill thoroughly and in detail, clause by clause. It can also amend its provisions, but without altering the principles underlying it.

(c) **Consideration Stage** - The House, after receiving the bill from the select committee, considers the provisions of the bill clause by clause. Each clause is discussed and voted upon separately. The members can also move amendments and if accepted, they become part of the bill.

3) **Third Reading** - At this stage, the debate is confined to the acceptance or rejection of the bill as a whole and no amendments are allowed. If the majority of members present and voting accept the bill, the bill is regarded as passed by the House and transmitted to the second House.

4) Bill in the Second House - the bill passes through all the three stages, that is, first reading, second reading and third reading.

5) **Assent of the President** - Every bill after being passed by both Houses of Parliament either singly or at a joint sitting, is presented to the president for his assent. If the president gives his assent to the bill, the bill becomes an act and is placed on the Statute Book.

So, for the given question the correct order would be: **Publication of the bill in the Gazette - Stage of General Discussion - Consideration Stage - Third Reading - Assent of the President.**

Source: Indian Polity by Laxmikant – 6th Edition – Chapter 22 Parliament.

Q.20) With reference to 'Socio-Economic Policies of States', which one of the following statements best describes the term 'New Welfarism"?

a) It is a policy of prioritising the supply of public goods such as basic health and primary education through top-down approach.

b) It is a form of neo-liberal policy that seeks for greater role of private sector in welfare sectors like education and health.

c) It focuses on the role of state in providing subsidized tangible essential goods and services such as bank accounts, cooking gas, toilets, electricity etc.

d) It is an approach that entails direct monetary benefits to the targeted group instead of providing physical support system.

Ans) c

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Recently released National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5) shows remarkable improvement in New Welfarism.

New Welfarism has entailed **the subsidised public provision of essential goods and services, normally provided by the private sector.** Such as bank accounts, cooking gas, toilets, electricity, housing, etc.

New Welfarism does not prioritise the supply of public goods such as basic health and primary education as governments have done around the world historically.

NFHS-5 data show the success of New Welfarism:

1) Firstly, striking **improvements in household access** to improved sanitation, cooking gas and bank accounts used by women.

2) Secondly, **Improvement in case of stunting** and diarrhoea on child-related outcomes.
3) Thirdly, India witnesses a **non-monopoly of any political party in regional performance**. For instance, the improvements in Rajasthan have happened under the Congress, in MP and Haryana under the BJP, in Odisha under the BJD, and in UP under both Samajwadi Party and BJP.

Source: What the latest NFHS data says about the New Welfarism-ForumIAS Blog

Q.21) In India, which of the following reviews the independent regulators in sectors like telecommunications, insurance, electricity, etc.?
1. Ad Hoc Committee set up by the Parliament.
2. Parliamentary Department Related Standing Committee
3. Finance Commission
4. Financial Sector Legislative Reforms Commission
5. NITI Aayog

Select the correct answer using the code given below.
a) 1 and 2 only
b) 1, 3 and 4 only
c) 3, 4 and 5 only
d) 2 and 5 only

Ans) a

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Independent regularity authorities are agencies of modern democratic governments. They are parts of the executive wing with a certain degree of statutory or constitutional autonomy, reporting directly to the legislature. Like the general executive, they are accountable to the legislature and subject to judicial review.
Ad Hoc Committee set up by the Parliament and Parliamentary Department Related Standing Committee review the independent regulators in sectors like telecommunications, insurance electricity, etc.
Finance Commission and NITI Aayog are advisory bodies and do not review the independent regulators in sectors like telecommunications. Financial Sector Legislative Reforms Commission (FSLRC) also had no role in reviewing independent regulators.
Source) UPSC CSE 2019

Q.22) With reference to the method of Proportional Representation for elections, consider the following statements:
1. The system of Territorial Representation represents the electorate more effectively as compared to Proportional Representation system.
2. The List System of Proportional Representation is adopted for the election of the Rajya Sabha members.
3. This system does not give any scope for organising by-elections.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
a) 1 only
b) 3 only
c) 1 and 2 only
d) 2 and 3 only

Ans) b

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Proportional representation is the idea that the seats in parliament should be in proportion to the votes cast.

www.upscmaterials.org

Statement 1 is incorrect: Under **territorial representation**, every member of the legislature represents a geographical area known as a constituency. From each constituency, only one representative is elected. In this system, a candidate who secures majority of votes is declared elected. This **simple majority system of representation does not represent the whole electorate.** The **system of proportional representation** aims at removing the defects of territorial representation. Under this system, **all sections of the people get representation in proportion to their number.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: There are two kinds of proportional representation, namely, single transferable vote system and list system. In **India**, the **single transferable vote system is adopted** for the election of members to the **Rajya Sabha and state legislative council and for electing the President and the Vice-President.**

Single transferable vote is an electoral system in which seats are allocated to candidates in order to achieve proportional representation, and where each candidate is ranked in order of preference by voters. As the vote-count develops and candidates are either elected or eliminated, it is transferred to other candidates in line with the voter's preferences.

In the list system, electors vote for one of several lists of candidates, usually prepared by the political parties. Each party is granted seats in proportion to the number of popular votes it receives.

Statement 3 is correct: The system of proportional representation has the following demerits:

1) It is highly expensive.
2) **It does not give any scope for organising by-elections.**
3) It eliminates intimate contacts between voters and representatives.
4) It promotes minority thinking and group interests.
5) It increases the significance of party system and decreases that of voter.

Source: Indian Polity by Laxmikant – 6th Edition – Chapter 22 Parliament.
https://uk-engage.org/2013/08/what-are-the-advantages-and-disadvantages-of-using-a-proportional-representation-pr-electoral-system/

Q.23) With reference to 'Delimitation Commission' in India, consider the following statements:
1. The orders of the Commission cannot be called in question before any court.
2. Modifications to orders of the Commission can only be done by the Lok Sabha and not by State Legislative Assemblies.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans) a

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Delimitation literally means the act or process of fixing limits or boundaries of territorial constituencies in a country or a province having a legislative body. The job of delimitation is assigned to a high-power body. Such a body is known as Delimitation Commission or a Boundary Commission.

Statement 1 is correct: The Delimitation Commission in India is a high-power body whose orders have the force of law and cannot be called in question before any court. These orders come into force on a date to be specified by the President of India in this behalf.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The copies of its orders are laid before the Lok Sabha and the State Legislative Assembly concerned, but **no modifications are permissible therein by them.**

Source: https://eci.gov.in/delimitation-website/delimitation/

www.freeupscmaterials.org

Q.24) In India, President is an integral part of the Parliament. In this context, consider the following statements:
1. A bill passed by both the houses of Parliament cannot become law without the President's assent.
2. S/he is the Leader of the House of the Lok Sabha.
3. S/he presides over joint sitting of two Houses of Parliament.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
a) 1 only
b) 2 and 3 only
c) 1 and 2 only
d) 1 and 3 only

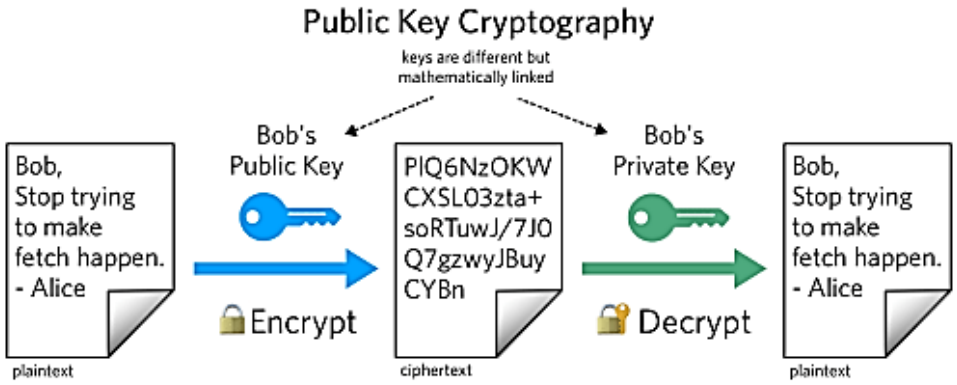
Ans) a
Exp) Option a is the correct answer.
Under the Indian constitution, the Parliament of India consists of three parts viz, the President, the Council of states (Rajya Sabha) and the House of the people (Lok Sabha).
Statement 1 is correct: Though the president of India is not a member of either House of Parliament and does not sit in the Parliament to attend its meetings, still he is an integral part of Parliament. This is because, **a bill passed by both the houses of Parliament cannot become law without the President's assent.**
Statement 2 is incorrect: Leader of the House in Lok Sabha is the Prime Minister by default if she/he is a member of the Lok Sabha. If the Prime Minister is not a member of Parliament's Lower House, she or he might appoint another minister to serve as Leader of the House.
Statement 3 is incorrect: Lok Sabha Speaker presides over a joint sitting of the two Houses of Parliament. Such a sitting is summoned by the President to settle a deadlock between the two Houses on a bill.
Source: Indian Polity by Laxmikant – 6th Edition – Chapter 22 Parliament

Q.25) Consider the following statements with reference to Public Key Cryptography:
1. It is a communication where people exchange messages that can only be read by one another.
2. Data that is encrypted with the public key can be decrypted only with the corresponding private key.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans) c
Exp) Option c is the correct answer.
The research undertaken by the Indian Army in the field of Quantum Technology will help leapfrog into next-generation communication and transform the current system of cryptography in the Indian Armed Forces to Post Quantum Cryptography (PQC).
Statement 1 is correct. **Public-key cryptography** also called asymmetric cryptography is communication where people exchange messages **that can only be read by one another.** In the Symmetric-key Cryptography both the sender and receiver share a single key. The sender uses this key to encrypt plaintext and send the cipher text to the receiver. On the other side the receiver applies the same key to decrypt the message and recover the plain text.
Statement 2 is correct. Data that is encrypted with the public key can be decrypted only with the corresponding private key. In **Public-Key Cryptography two related keys (public and private key) are**

www.freeupscmaterials.org

used. Public key may be freely distributed, while its paired private key remains a secret. The public key is used for encryption and for decryption private key is used.



Source: https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=1786012
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/definition/cryptography

Q.26) With reference to the Legislative Council in a State, consider the following Statements:
1. A Legislative Council can be created by the Parliament only when Rajya Sabha passes a resolution to that effect.
2. The Act of Parliament to create a Legislative Council is considered a Constitutional Amendment under Article 368.
3. The actual strength of the Legislative Council in a State is fixed by the Governor of that State.
4. The retiring members of the Council are eligible for re-election and re-nomination for any number of times.
Which of the Statements given above is/are correct?
a) 2 and 3 only
b) 4 only
c) 3 and 4 only
d) 1, 2, 3 only

Ans) b
Exp) Option b is the correct answer.
There is no uniformity in the organisation of State legislatures. Most of the States have a unicameral system, while others have a bicameral system. At present, only six States have two Houses (bicameral). These are Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Maharashtra and Karnataka.
In the States having bicameral system, the State legislature consists of the Governor, the Legislative Council and the Legislative Assembly. The Legislative Council (Vidhan Parishad) is the upper house (second chamber or house of elders), while the Legislative Assembly (Vidhan Sabha) is the lower house (first chamber or popular house).
Statement 1 is incorrect: The Constitution provides for the abolition or creation of legislative councils in states. Accordingly, **the Parliament can abolish a legislative council (where it already exists) or create it (where it does not exist), if the legislative assembly of the concerned state passes a resolution to that effect.**
Statement 2 is incorrect: Such a specific resolution must be passed by the state assembly by a special majority, that is, a majority of the total membership of the assembly and a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members of the assembly present and voting. **This Act of Parliament is not to be deemed as**

www.upscmaterials.org

an amendment of the Constitution for the purposes of Article 368 and is passed like an ordinary piece of legislation (ie, by simple majority).

Statement 3 is incorrect: Unlike the members of the legislative assembly, the members of the legislative council are indirectly elected. The maximum strength of the council is fixed at one-third of the total strength of the assembly and the minimum strength is fixed at 40. It means that the size of the council depends on the size of the assembly of the concerned state. This is done to ensure the predominance of the directly elected House (assembly) in the legislative affairs of the state. Though the Constitution has fixed the maximum and the minimum limits, **the actual strength of a Council is fixed by Parliament.**

Statement 4 is correct: Like the Rajya Sabha, the legislative council is a continuing chamber, that is, it is a permanent body and is not subject to dissolution. But, one-third of its members retire on the expiration of every second year. So, a member continues as such for six years. The vacant seats are filled up by fresh elections and nominations (by governor) at the beginning of every third year. **The retiring members are also eligible for re-election and re-nomination any number of times.**

Source: 725-728, M. Laxmikant 6th Edition.pdf

Q.27) With reference to the Anglo-Indians, consider the following statements:

1. The term 'Anglo-Indian' is defined in the Indian Constitution
2. The original Indian Constitution of 1950 provided for the reservation for Anglo-Indians in Lok Sabha.
3. The 104th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2020 discontinued the reservation of Anglo-Indians in the Lok Sabha.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

a) 1 and 2 only
b) 2 and 3 only
c) 1 and 3 only
d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans) d

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The Constitution provides for the reservation of seats for certain classes of citizens like the SCs and STs.

Statement 1 is correct. The term Anglo-Indians is defined by the Constitution. Article 366 defines Anglo-Indian as a person whose father or any of whose other male progenitors in the male line is or was of European descent but who is domiciled within the territory of India and is or was born within such territory of parents habitually resident therein and not established there for temporary purposes only.

Statement 2 is correct: The provision for reservation for Anglo-Indian in Lok Sabha was provided in the original Indian Constitution. Originally, this provision was to operate till 1960 but has been extended by the Eighth Amendment Act, 1960 for a period of ten years (i.e., up to 1970). It was extended till 2020 by the 95th Amendment Act, 2009.

Statement 3 is correct: The **104th Constitutional Amendment Act. 2020** extend the reservation of seats for SCs and STs in the Lok Sabha and states assemblies from Seventy years to Eighty years **but did not extend the reserved seats for the Anglo-Indian community in the Lok Sabha and state assemblies**.

Knowledge Base:

Article 366(2) of the original Constitution defines the Anglo-Indian as a person whose father or any other male progenitor in the male line is or was of European descent, but who is domiciled within the territory of India and is or was born within such territory of parents habitually resident therein and not established there for temporary purposes only.

Source: Indian Polity by Laxmikant – 6th Edition – Chapter 22 Parliament.

www.forumiasmaterials.org

Q.28) Which of the following States/Union Territories in India have bicameral legislature?
1. Puducherry
2. Andhra Pradesh
3. Uttar Pradesh
4. Rajasthan
5. Bihar
6. Karnataka
7. Jammu & Kashmir
Select the correct answer using the code given below:
a) 1, 2, 3, 5 and 7 only
b) 2, 3, 5 and 6 only
c) 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 only
d) 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6 only

Ans) b

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Bicameralism is the practice of having two Houses of Parliament. At the State level, the equivalent of the Lok Sabha is the Vidhan Sabha (Legislative Assembly), and that of the Rajya Sabha is the Vidhan Parishad (Legislative Council). Under Article 169, Parliament may by law create or abolish the second chamber in a State if the Legislative Assembly of that State passes a resolution to that effect by a special majority. At present, six Indian States have bicameral legislatures.

Pondicherry and Rajasthan do not have a bi-cameral legislature (Hence, option 1 and 4 are incorrect)

Only Six States in India are having a Bicameral Legislature ie Both Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council:

1) **Andhra Pradesh (Hence, option 2 is correct)**
2) **Telangana**
3) **Uttar Pradesh (Hence, option 3 is correct)**
4) **Bihar (Hence, option 5 is correct)**
5) **Maharashtra**
6) **Karnataka. (Hence, option 6 is correct)**

In 2019, the Jammu & Kashmir Legislative Council was abolished through the J&K Reorganisation Act, 2019. This act reduced the State of J&K to the Union Territories of J&K and Ladakh. **(Hence, option 7 is incorrect)**

Note: In 2020, Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly passed the resolution for abolition of the Legislative Council. This resolution is yet to be cleared by the Parliament of India to finally abolish the council.

Knowledge Base:

Article 169 (Creation and Abolition): The Parliament can abolish a Legislative Council (where it already exists) or create it (where it does not exist) by a simple majority, that is, a majority of the members of each House present and voting, if the legislative assembly of the concerned state, by a special majority, passes a resolution to that effect. Special majority implies a majority of the total membership of the assembly and a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members of the assembly present and voting.

Source: M. Laxmikant 6th Edition.pdf
https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/op-ed/what-is-bicameral-legislature/article26763394.ece
https://prsindia.org/articles-by-prs-team/bengal-wants-upper-house-back-how-states-have-councils

www.freeupscmaterials.org

Q.29) With reference to the position of Legislative Council of a State and the Rajya Sabha under the Indian Constitution, consider the following Statements:
1. Like the Rajya Sabha, the Legislative Councils cannot reject or amend a Money Bill.
2. Unlike the Rajya Sabha, the Legislative Council does not participate in the election of the President of India.
3. The Legislative Council does not have any exclusive or special powers as enjoyed by the Rajya Sabha.
Which of the Statements given above are correct?
a) 1 and 2 only
b) 2 and 3 only
c) 1 and 3 only
d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans) d
Exp) Option d is the correct answer.
Even though both the council and the Rajya Sabha are second chambers, the Constitution has given the council much lesser importance than the Rajya Sabha.
Statement 1 is correct: A Money Bill can be introduced only in the assembly and not in the legislative council. The Legislative councils, like the Rajya Sabha, **cannot amend or reject a money bill**. It should return the bill to the assembly within 14 days, either with recommendations or without recommendations.
Similarly, a Money Bill can be introduced only in the Lok Sabha and not in the Rajya Sabha. **Rajya Sabha cannot amend or reject a Money Bill.** It should return the bill to the Lok Sabha within 14 days, either with recommendations or without recommendations
Statement 2 is correct: The Council does not participate in the election of the President of India and representatives of the state in the Rajya Sabha. The council has no effective say in the ratification of a constitutional amendment bill. In this respect also, the will of the assembly prevails over that of the council.
Statement 3 is correct: The Rajya Sabha has been given four exclusive or special powers that are not enjoyed by the Legislative Council of a State: 1. It can authorise the Parliament to make a law on a subject enumerated in the State List (Article 249). 2. It can authorise the Parliament to create new All-India Services common to both the Centre and states (Article 312). 3. It alone can initiate a move for the removal of the vice president. 4. A proclamation can remain effective even if it is approved by the Rajya Sabha alone (Articles 352, 356 and 360).
Source: 546, 725-728, M. Laxmikant 6th Edition.pdf

Q.30) Consider the following statements with reference to Magnetars:
1. A Magnetar is a type of neutron star that has an ultra-powerful magnetic field.
2. Magnetars can be more luminous than Sun even in an inactive state.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans) c
Exp) Option c is the correct answer.
Statement 1 is correct. A magnetar is **extremely dense type of neutron star**, and its defining feature that it has an ultra-powerful magnetic field, **trillions of times stronger than sun**.

www.forumias.com

Statement 2 is correct. **Even in an inactive state**, **magnetars can be one hundred thousand times more luminous than our Sun**. The energy that was released is equivalent to that which our Sun radiates in one hundred thousand years. Magnetars can cause starquakes, or earthquakes on stars.
Source: https://www.sciencealert.com/a-dead-star-has-erupted-with-all-the-fire-and-fury-of-100-000-suns#:~:text=%22Even%20in%20an%20inactive%20state,astrophysicist%20Alberto%20J.%20Castro%2DTirado
https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/What-are-magnetars/article14640121.ece

Q.31) Out of the following statements, choose the one that brings out the principle underlying the Cabinet form of Government:
a) An arrangement for minimizing the criticism against the Government whose responsibilities are complex and hard to carry out the satisfaction of all.
b) A mechanism for speeding up the activities of the Government whose responsibilities are increasing day by day.
c) A mechanism of parliamentary democracy for ensuring collective responsibility of the Government to the people.
d) A device for strengthening the hands of the head of the Government whose hold over the people is in a state of decline.

Ans) c
Exp) Option c is the correct answer.
Parliamentary democracy envisages a cabinet form of government with a President as a titular head (and a governor in the states) with responsibility of ministers to the Parliament.
One of the key features of Parliamentary System of Government is that the Executive is responsible to the Legislature. Thus, Under Article 75(3), In India the Council of Ministers is collectively responsible to the House of People (Lok Sabha). The Council of Ministers remains in office as long as they enjoy the support and confidence of the Lok Sabha.
The features of parliamentary government in India are:
(a) Presence of nominal and real executives;
(b) Majority party rule,
(c) **Collective responsibility of the executive to the legislature,**
(d) Membership of the ministers in the legislature,
(e) Leadership of the Prime Minister or the Chief Minister,
(f) Dissolution of the lower House (Lok Sabha or Assembly).
Source) UPSC CSE 2017

Q.32) With reference to the Secretariat of Parliament in India, consider the following statements:
1. One of its functions is to ensure payment of salary and other allowances to the Members of the House.
2. It is headed by Minister of Parliamentary Affairs.
3. The recruitment and service conditions of the secretarial staff are regulated by the Council of Ministers.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) 1 and 3 only
d) 2 and 3 only

www.freeupscmaterials.org

Ans) a

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Each House of Parliament has separate secretarial staff of its own under Article 98, though there can be some posts common to both the Houses. The Secretariat is an independent body which functions under the ultimate guidance and control of the Presiding Officer.

Statement 1 is correct: The main activities of the Secretariat include the following: -

1) providing secretarial assistance and support to the effective functioning of the House.
2) **payment of salary and other allowances to the Members of the House.**
3) providing amenities as admissible to Members of the House.
4) servicing the various Parliamentary Committees.
5) preparing research and reference material and bringing out various publications.
6) recruitment of manpower in the Rajya Sabha Secretariat and attending to personnel matters. preparing and publishing a record of the day-to-day proceedings of the House and
7) bringing out such other publications, as may be required concerning the functioning of the House.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The secretariat of each House is headed by a **secretary-general (not the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs)**. He is a permanent officer and is appointed by the presiding officer of the House.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Parliament may by law regulate the recruitment and the conditions of service of persons appointed to the secretarial staff of either House of Parliament.

Knowledge Base:

In the discharge of his Constitutional and statutory responsibilities, the Presiding Officer is assisted by the Secretary-General (whose pay scale, position and status etc. is equivalent to that of the highest ranking official in the Government of India i.e., Cabinet Secretary), functionaries of the level of the Additional Secretary, Joint Secretary and other officers and staff of the Secretariat at various levels. These are not regulated by the Council of Ministers.

Source: Indian Polity by Laxmikant – 6th Edition – Chapter 22 Parliament.
https://rajyasabha.nic.in/RajyaSabhaSecretariat

Q.33) With reference to the Parliament in India, consider the following statements:

1. A bill passed by the Rajya Sabha but pending in the Lok Sabha does not lapse on the dissolution of the Lok Sabha
2. A bill passed by the Lok Sabha but pending in the Rajya Sabha does not lapse on the dissolution of the Lok Sabha.
3. Prorogation of the House does not affect the bills pending before the House.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

a) 1 and 3 only
b) 3 only
c) 1 and 2 only
d) 2 and 3 only

Ans) b

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Dissolution ends the very life of the existing House, and a new House is constituted after general elections are held.

Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect: When the Lok Sabha is dissolved, all business including bills, motions, resolutions, notices, petitions and so on pending before it or its committees lapse. However, some pending bills and all pending assurances that are to be examined by the Committee on Government Assurances do not lapse on the dissolution of the Lok Sabha. The position with respect to lapsing of bills is as follows:

www.freeupscmaterials.org

1) **A bill pending in the Lok Sabha lapses (**whether originating in the Lok Sabha or **transmitted to it by the Rajya Sabha).**
2) **A bill passed by the Lok Sabha but pending in the Rajya Sabha lapses.**
3) A bill not passed by the two Houses due to disagreement and if the president has notified the holding of a joint sitting before the dissolution of Lok Sabha, does not lapse.
4) A bill pending in the Rajya Sabha but not passed by the Lok Sabha does not lapse.
5) A bill passed by both Houses but pending assent of the president does not lapse.
6) A bill passed by both Houses but returned by the president for reconsideration of Houses does not lapse.

Statement 3 is correct: Prorogation terminates both the sitting and the session of the House. It is **done by the President of India**. Prorogation does **not affect the bills or any other business pending before the House.** However, all pending notices (other than those for introducing bills) lapse on prorogation and fresh notices have to be given for the next session.

Source: Indian Polity by Laxmikant – 6th Edition – Chapter 22 Parliament.

Q.34) With reference to Indian Parliament, Consider the following statements about Department Related Standing Committees (DRSCs):
1. They are constitutional bodies mentioned in Part V of the Constitution of India.
2. The term of office of each standing committee is coterminous with the life of Lok Sabha.
3. They secure accountability of the Council of Ministers towards the Parliament.
4. They assist the Parliament in scrutinizing the bills referred to it.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
a) 2, 3 and 4 only
b) 3 only
c) 3 and 4 only
d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Ans) c

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Each Department Relates Standing Committee consists of 31 members (21 from Lok Sabha and 10 from Rajya Sabha). The members of the Lok Sabha are nominated by the Speaker, just as the members of the Rajya Sabha are nominated by the Chairman from amongst its members. A minister is not eligible to be nominated as a member of any of the standing committees. In case a member, after his nomination to any of the standing committees, is appointed a minister, he then ceases to be a member of the committee

Statement 1 is incorrect: They are not constitutional bodies. On the recommendation of the Rules Committee of the Lok Sabha, 17 DRSCs were set up in the Parliament in 1993. In 2004, seven more such committees were set up, thus increasing their number from 17 to 24. Out of the 24 Departmental Standing Committees, 8 work under the Rajya Sabha and 16 under the Lok Sabha.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The term of office of each standing committee is one year from the date of its constitution.

Statement 3 is correct: They secure more accountability of the Council of Ministers to the Parliament. Through Committees, Parliament exercises its control and influence over administration and keeps vigilance over the executive.

Statement 4 is correct: The Committees aid and assist the Legislature in discharging its duties and regulating its functions effectively, expeditiously and efficiently. **They assist the Parliament in thoroughly and systematically scrutinizing the bills and matters which could not be discussed on the floor at length.** These bills are referred to the Committee by the Chairman or the Speaker. The Committees also provide the expertise on a matter which is referred to them.

www.forumiasmaterials.org

Knowledge Base:
These DRSCs are entrusted with the following functions: -
(a) to consider the Demands for Grants of the related Ministries/Departments and report thereon. The report shall not suggest anything of the nature of cut motions;
(b) to examine Bills, pertaining to the related Ministries/Departments, referred to the Committee by the Chairman or the Speaker, as the case may be, and report thereon;
(c) to consider the annual reports of the Ministries/Departments and report thereon; and
(d) to consider national basic long term policy documents presented to the Houses, if referred to the Committee by the Chairman or the Speaker, as the case may be, and report thereon.
Source: https://rajyasabha.nic.in/Committees/DepartmentRelatedSC_RS?id=17

Q.35) Which among the following statements is/are correct with regards to Type 1 Diabetes?
1. It accounts for the vast majority (over 90%) of diabetes worldwide.
2. It is the major type of diabetes in childhood but can occur at any age.
Select the correct answer using the code given below:
a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans) b
Exp) Option b is the correct answer.
Diabetes is a serious chronic condition that occurs when the body cannot produce enough insulin or cannot effectively use the insulin it does produce.
The 10th edition of the International Diabetes Federation Diabetes Atlas has been released. It has been reported that Diabetes is one of the fastest-growing global health emergencies of the 21st century.
Type 1 diabetes is a condition in which your immune system destroys insulin-making cells in the pancreas. The condition is usually diagnosed in children and young people, so it used to be called juvenile diabetes
Statement 1 is incorrect: Type 2 Diabetes accounts for the vast majority (and not Type 1) of diabetes worldwide. Type 2 diabetes is a lifelong disease that keeps your body from using insulin the way it should. People with type 2 diabetes are said to have insulin resistance
Statement 2 is correct: Type 1 diabetes is the **major type of diabetes in childhood but can occur at any age**. It cannot be cured, people with type 1 diabetes **require insulin to survive**.
Knowledge Base:
1) In 2021, one in 10 adults worldwide, which means around 537 million people are now living with diabetes. This is higher than the 463 million adults who lived with the condition in 2019.
2) Diabetes now ranks among the top 10 causes of global mortality, responsible for an estimated 6.7 million deaths in 2021. Furthermore, Globally, 88% of adults living with undiagnosed diabetes are in low- and middle-income countries.

Source: https://www.downtoearth.org.in/blog/health/a-new-report-shows-worrying-growth-of-the-diabetes-pandemic-80558

www.forumiasmaterials.org

Q.36) Which of the following pairs are correctly matched?

List I Cut motions	List II Description
1. Policy Cut Motion	The amount of the demand be reduced by ₹100
2. Token Cut Motion	The amount of the demand be reduced to Rs 1
3. Economy Cut Motion	The amount of the demand be reduced by a specified amount

Select the correct answer using the code given below:
a) 1 only
b) 2 and 3 only
c) 3 only
d) 1 and 2 only

Ans) c

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Each demand of budget is voted separately by the Lok Sabha. The members of Parliament can discuss the details of the budget during this stage. They can also move motions to reduce any demand for grant. Such motions are called as 'cut motion'.

Pair 1 is incorrect: Policy cut motion represents the disapproval of the policy underlying the demand**. It states that the amount of the demand be reduced to Re 1(and not reduced by ₹100).** The members can also advocate an alternative policy. Policy cut motion represents the disapproval of the policy undermining the demand. However, if a member moves the cut, they have to indicate in precise terms the details of the policy which they want to discuss and should be confined to the specific points mentioned in the cut notice.

Pair 2 is incorrect: Token Cut Motion ventilates a specific grievance that is within the sphere of responsibility of the Government of India. **It states that the amount of the demand be reduced by ₹100 (and not to be reduced to Re 1).**

Pair 3 is correct: Economy Cut Motion represents the economy that can be affected in the proposed expenditure. **It states that the amount of the demand be reduced by a specified amount (which may be either a lump sum reduction in the demand or omission or reduction of an item in the demand).**

Source: https://www.business-standard.com/about/what-is-cut-motion
Indian polity by M Laxmikanth pdf 6th edition. Chapter name-Parliament. Page no-541.

Q.37) Consider the following statements with reference to the Joint Sitting of the Parliament:
1. It is governed by the Rules of Procedure of both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha.
2. No new amendments can be proposed to a bill at a joint sitting.
3. The bill is deemed to have been passed only if it is passed by a majority of the total membership of both the houses of parliament.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
a) 1 and 2 only
b) 2 only
c) 1 and 3 only
d) None of the above

Ans) d

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

www.freeiascoaching.org

As per Article 108 of Constitution a Joint sitting is an extraordinary mechanism provided by the Constitution of India to resolve a deadlock between the two Houses over the passage of a bill. **It is to be noted that the provisions of Joint seating are applicable to ordinary bills or financial bills only. Not all bills can be referred to a joint sitting of Parliament. There are two exceptions.**

1) **Money bill under Article 110.**
2) **Constitution amendment bill under Article 368.**

Statement 1 is incorrect: The joint sitting is governed by the Rules of Procedure of Lok Sabha and not of Rajya Sabha. The quorum to constitute a joint sitting is one-tenth of the total number of members of the two Houses.

Statement 2 is incorrect:

The Constitution has specified that at a joint sitting, new amendments to the bill cannot be proposed **except in two cases**:

1) those amendments that have caused final disagreement between the Houses; and
2) those amendments that might have become necessary due to the delay in the passage of the bill.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The bill in dispute in joint sitting of the two houses is deemed to have been passed by a majority of the total number of members of both the Houses present and voting (and not by a majority of the total membership of both the houses of parliament). Normally, the Lok Sabha with greater number wins the battle in a joint sitting.

Source: Indian polity by M Laxmikanth pdf 6th edition. Chapter name-Parliament. Page no-534 and 535.

Q.38) Consider the following statements with reference to the Constitutional provisions regarding the Budget:

1. Parliament does not have right either to discuss or to vote on the expenditures charged on the Consolidated Fund of India.
2. The term 'budget' has nowhere been used in the Constitution of India.
3. With regard to the enactment of budget, Parliament can reduce or abolish a tax but cannot increase it.
4. Vote on the demands for grants is an exclusive privilege of the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha has no power regarding it.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

a) 1, 2 and 3 only
b) 2, 3 and 4 only
c) 1, 3 and 4 only
d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Ans) b

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Article 112 of the Constitution deals with the budget which is a statement of the estimated receipts and expenditure of the Government of India in a financial year.

Statement 1 is incorrect: According to the constitutional provisions, the budget expenditure charged on the Consolidated Fund of India shall not be submitted for the vote of Parliament. However, it can be discussed by the Parliament.

Statement 2 is correct: The Constitution refers to the budget as the 'annual financial statement'. The term 'budget' has nowhere been used in the Constitution of India.

Statement 3 is correct: The Constitution of India contains the following provisions with regard to the enactment of budget:

1) **Parliament can reduce or abolish a tax but cannot increase it.**

www.freeupscmaterials.org

2) The President shall in respect of every financial year cause to be laid before both the Houses of Parliament a statement of estimated receipts and expenditure of the Government of India for that year.
3) No demand for a grant shall be made except on the recommendation of the President.
4) No money shall be withdrawn from the Consolidated Fund of India except under appropriation made by law.
5) No money bill imposing tax shall be introduced in the Parliament except on the recommendation of the President, and such a bill shall not be introduced in the Rajya Sabha.

Statement 4 is correct: The Constitution of India has defined the relative roles or position of both the Houses of Parliament with regard to the enactment of the budget in the following way:

1) A money bill or finance bill dealing with taxation cannot be introduced in the Rajya Sabha–it must be introduced only in the Lok Sabha.
2) **The Rajya Sabha has no power to vote on the demand for grants; it is the exclusive privilege of the Lok Sabha.**
3) The Rajya Sabha should return the Money bill (or Finance bill) to the Lok Sabha within fourteen days. The Lok Sabha can either accept or reject the recommendations made by Rajya Sabha in this regard.

Source: Indian polity by M Laxmikanth pdf 6th edition. Chapter name-Parliament. Page no-536 and 537.

Q.39) With reference to Private Member's Bills and Public Bills, Consider the following statements:
1. Both types of bills can be introduced in the Parliament after only seven days' notice.
2. No private member's bill has been passed by Parliament of India till date.
3. A bill introduced by an elected member of Parliament is called as public bill, while a bill introduced by a nominated member is called as private bill.
Which of the statements given above is/are **incorrect?**
a) 1 and 2 only
b) 2 and 3 only
c) 1 only
d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans) d

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The introduction of Public Bills in the House requires seven days' notice. The introduction of Private Bills in the House requires one month's notice.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The last time a private member's bill was passed by both Houses was in **1970.**It was the **Supreme Court (Enlargement of Criminal Appellate Jurisdiction) Bill, 1968. 14** private member's bills – five of which were introduced in Rajya Sabha – have **become law** so far. Some other private member bills that have become laws include:

1) Proceedings of Legislature (Protection of Publication) Bill, 1956, in the Lok Sabha;
2) The Salaries and Allowances of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Bill, 1964, introduced by in the Lok Sabha and
3) The Indian Penal Code (Amendment) Bill, 1967 introduced in the Rajya Sabha. Etc.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Private member's bill is introduced by any member of Parliament other than a minister (not necessarily a nominated member) while the public bill is introduced by a minister (and not any other elected member). Public bill reflects of the policies of the government. Private member's bill reflects the stand of opposition party or a member of parliament on public matter.
Source: Indian polity by M Laxmikanth pdf 6th edition. Chapter name-Parliament. Page no-526.

www.freeupscmaterials.org

Q.40) Consider the following pairs in context of places in news:

Place in news	***Country/Region***
1. Barbados	Caribbean Islands
2. Donbas	Poland
3. Amami Islands	China

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

a) 1 only
b) 1 and 2 only
c) 1 and 3 only
d) 2 and 3 only

Ans) a

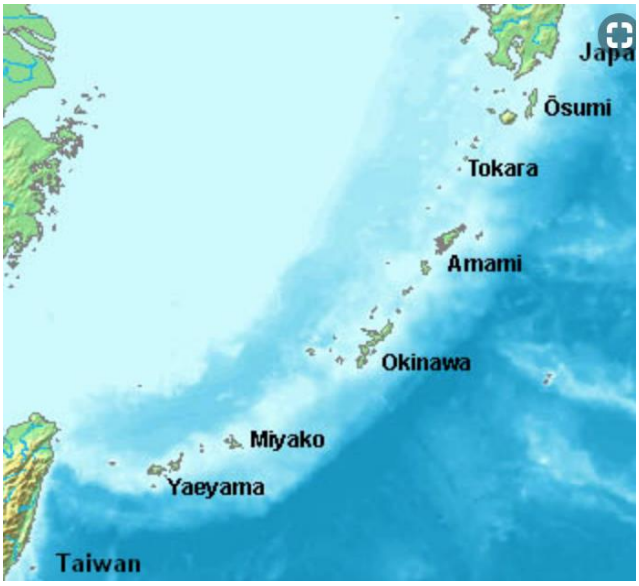
Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Pair 1 is correctly matched: Barbados is an island in the **Caribbean region** of the Americas, and the most easterly of the Caribbean Islands. It recently became the newest republic in the world. This is the first time since the 1970s that a Caribbean state has become a republic.

Pair 2 is incorrectly matched: Donbas is a small region in **eastern Ukraine (and not Poland)** adjoining the Russian border. With Russia mobilizing thousands of troops on its border with Ukraine, which has **sparked fears of war**, Donbas is once again at the center of a looming conflict.

Pair 3 is incorrectly matched: The **Amami Islands** is an archipelago near East China Sea that belongs to Kagoshima Prefecture, **Japan (and not China**). Recently, sighting of an unidentified submarine believed to be Chinese was reported by Japan.

Forumeupsmaterials.org



Source: https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/barbados-says-goodbye-to-queen-elizabeth-ii-transforms-into-republic/article37765047.ece
https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/donbas-at-the-centre-of-the-ukraine-crisis/article37935114.ece
https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/japan-says-suspected-chinese-submarine-seen-near-territorial-waters/article36411503.ece
https://the-japan-news.com/news/article/0008134870

Q.41) Consider the following statements:
1. In the election for Lok Sabha or State Assembly, the winning candidate must get at least 50 percent of the votes polled, to be declared elected.
2. According to the provisions laid down in the Constitution of India, in Lok Sabha, the Speaker's post goes to the majority party and the Deputy Speaker's to the Opposition.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans) d
Exp) Option d is the correct answer.
Statement 1 is incorrect. As India follows the First Past the Post System, where a candidate who polls more votes than any other candidate is declared elected.
Statement 2 is incorrect. As per the constitution, the speaker and deputy speaker in Lok Sabha are elected among its members. It is not a constitutional provision but a convention that Speaker's post goes to the majority party and the Deputy Speaker's to the Opposition.
Source) UPSC CSE 2017

Q.42) Consider the following statements with reference to the finance bill and appropriation bill:
1. A Finance Bill is a Money Bill.
2. The government of India cannot withdraw money from the Consolidated Fund of India till the enactment of the appropriation bill.

www.freeupscmaterials.org

3. Unlike the Appropriation Bill, the amendments seeking to reject or reduce a tax can be moved in the case of finance bill.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
a) 1 and 2 only
b) 2 only
c) 1 and 3 only
d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans) d
Exp) Option d is the correct answer.
Statement 1 is correct: A Finance Bill is a Money Bill as defined in Article 110 of the Constitution. It is accompanied by a Memorandum explaining the provisions included in it. The Finance Bill is introduced to give effect to the financial proposals of the Government of India for the following year. At the time of presentation of the Annual Financial Statement before Parliament, a Finance Bill is also presented in fulfillment of the requirement of Article 110 (1)(a) of the Constitution, detailing the imposition, abolition, remission, alteration or regulation of taxes proposed in the Budget.
Statement 2 is correct: Appropriation act authorizes the payments from the Consolidated Fund of India. This means that the government cannot withdraw money from the Consolidated Fund of India till the enactment of the appropriation bill. Under Article 114(3) of the Constitution, no amount can be withdrawn from the Consolidated Fund without the enactment of appropriation bill by Parliament. The Appropriation Bill becomes the Appropriation Act after President gives its assent to the bill.
Statement 3 is correct: The Finance Bill is introduced to give effect to the financial proposals of the Government of India for the following year. It is subjected to all the conditions applicable to a Money Bill. **Unlike the Appropriation Bill, the amendments seeking to reject or reduce a tax can be moved in the case of finance bill.** According to the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act of 1931, the Finance Bill must be enacted within 75 days.
Source: Indian polity by M Laxmikanth pdf 6th edition. Chapter name-Parliament. Page no-543.
https://www.indiabudget.gov.in/budget2011-2012/ub2011-12/keybud/keybud2011.pdf

Q.43) With reference to the parliamentary committees in parliamentary system of government, Consider the following statements:
1. The Constitution of India makes no mention of parliamentary committees.
2. Parliamentary committees provide a forum for building consensus across political parties.
3. Consultative Committees are a type of Parliamentary committees.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
a) 1 and 2 only
b) 2 only
c) 2 and 3 only
d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans) b
Exp) Option b is the correct answer.
Statement 1 is incorrect: The Constitution of India makes a mention of Parliamentary Committees at different places, but without making any specific provisions regarding their composition, tenure, functions, etc. All these matters are dealt by the rules of two Houses.
Statement 2 is correct: Parliamentary Committees provide a forum for building consensus across political parties. The proceedings of the House during sessions are televised, and MPs are likely to stick to

their party positions on most matters. Committees have closed door meetings, which allow them to freely question and discuss issues and arrive at a consensus.

Statement 3 is incorrect A parliamentary committee means a committee that:

1) Is appointed or elected by the House or nominated by the Speaker / Chairman1
2) Works under the direction of the Speaker / Chairman
3) Presents its report to the House or to the Speaker /Chairman
4) Has a secretariat provided by the Lok Sabha / Rajya Sabha

The consultative committees, which also consist of members of Parliament, are not parliamentary committees as they do not fulfil above four conditions.

Source: https://prsindia.org/theprsblog/importance-parliamentary-committees

Indian polity by M Laxmikanth pdf 6th edition. Chapter name-Parliamentary committees. Page no-576.

Q.44) The origin of this committee can be traced back to the standing financial committee set up in 1921. It was first constituted in the post-independence era on the recommendation of John Mathai. Originally the committee had 25 members but in 1956 its membership was raised to 30. All the members of this committee are from Lok Sabha only. The Rajya Sabha has no representation in this committee.

a) Public Accounts Committee
b) Estimates Committee
c) Committee on Public Undertakings
d) Business Advisory Committee

Ans) b

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Option a is incorrect: Public Accounts Committee was set up first in 1921 under the provisions of the Government of India Act of 1919. At present, it consists of 22 members (15 from the Lok Sabha and 7 from the Rajya Sabha). The members are elected by the Parliament every year from amongst its members according to the principle of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote. Thus, all parties get due representation in it. The term of office of the members is one year. A minister cannot be elected as a member of the committee.

Option b is correct: The origin of Estimates Committee can be traced to the standing financial committee set up in 1921. The first Estimates Committee in the post-independence era **was constituted in 1950 on the recommendation of the then finance minister John Mathai**. Originally the committee had 25 members but in 1956 its membership was raised to 30. **All the thirty members of estimates committee are from Lok Sabha only. The Rajya Sabha has no representation in this committee.** These members are elected by the Lok Sabha every year from amongst its own members, according to the principles of proportional representation by means of a single transferable vote. Thus, all parties get due representation in it. The function of the committee is to examine the estimates included in the budget and suggest 'economies' in public expenditure. Hence, it has been described as a 'continuous economy committee'.

Option c is incorrect: Committee on Public Undertakings was created in 1964 on the recommendation of the Krishna Menon Committee. Originally the committee had 15 members (10 from the Lok Sabha and 5 from the Rajya Sabha). However, in 1974, its membership was raised to 22 (15 from the Lok Sabha and 7 from the Rajya Sabha). The members of this committee are elected by the Parliament every year from amongst its own members according to the principle of proportional representation by means of a single transferable vote. Thus, all parties get due representation in it. The term of office of the members is one year. A minister cannot be elected as a member of the committee.

Option d is incorrect: Business Advisory Committee regulates the programme and time table of the House. It allocates time for the transaction of legislative and other business brought before the House by

the government. The Lok Sabha committee consists of 15 members including the Speaker as its chairman. In the Rajya Sabha, it has 11 members including the Chairman as its ex officio chairman.
Source: Indian polity by M Laxmikanth pdf 6th edition. Chapter name-Parliamentary committees. Page no-580,582,583,594.

Q.45) Which among the following statements is/are ***incorrect*** with regards to Media Regulation in India:
1. Press Council of India is assigned with the authority to regulate all kind of media coverage including Print, Radio and TV news.
2. The News Broadcasters and Digital Association (NBDA) is a self-regulatory body for the digital broadcasters.
Select the correct answer using the code given below:
a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans) a
Exp) Option a is the correct answer.
Ministry of Broadcasting and Information oversees both print and digital media in India. There are also some **autonomous bodies** that keep eyes on specific sections of the media.
Statement 1 is incorrect: Press Council of India is vested with **statutory powers** for preserving the freedom of Press and for maintaining and improving the standards of **newspapers, print media, and radio (and not TV news)**. It is established under **Press Council Act, 1978**.
Statement 2 is correct: News Broadcasters & Digital Standards Association administers broadcastings, which has been **voluntarily drawn by the NBDA (**News Broadcasters & Digital Association) for its member broadcasters to demonstrate their commitment to **responsible broadcasting and to self-regulate themselves.** It is the collective voice of the news, current affairs and digital broadcasters in India. It is an organization funded entirely by its members.
Knowledge Base:
1) Recently, the **Parliamentary Standing Committee on Communications and Information Technology** has submitted two reports titled "Ethical Standards in Media Coverage" and "Suspension `of Telecom Services/Internet and Its Impact" to the Parliament.
2) One of the key recommendations is that a '**Media Council'** should be set up with statutory powers to enforce its powers to **check "irregularities**" in print, electronic and digital media platforms. This is because existing regulatory bodies like the Press Council of India (PCI) and News Broadcasting and Digital Standards Authority (NBDSA) have limited efficacy because they **do not have the powers to enforce their decisions**.

Source:
http://164.100.47.193/lsscommittee/Communications%20and%20Information%20Technology/17_Communications_and_Information_Technology_27.pdf
http://www.nbanewdelhi.com/about-nba

Q.46) Consider the following statements with reference to the Consultative Committees:
1. These committees are headed by a member of parliament other than a minister.
2. These committees provide a forum for informal discussions between the ministers and the members of Parliament on policies of the government.
3. Consultative committees are constituted by the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
a) 2 only
b) 2 and 3 only
c) 1 and 3 only
d) 1 and 2

Ans) a

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Consultative Committees for various Ministries or Departments are normally constituted after general election to the Lok Sabha and as and when necessary. The constitution of these committees is generally timed with the summoning of the Budget Session of Parliament.

Statement 1 is incorrect: Consultative committees of parliament are attached to various ministries or departments of the Central Government. They consist of members of both the Houses of Parliament. **The Minister / Minister of State in charge of the Ministry concerned acts as the chairman of the consultative committee of that ministry.**

Statement 2 is correct: Consultative Committees provide a forum for informal discussions between the ministers and the members of Parliament on policies and programmes of the government and the manner of their implementation. Discussions at the meetings of these committees are held in a free and frank manner, cutting across party lines.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Consultative Committees are constituted by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs (and not by the ministry of home affairs). The guidelines regarding the composition, functions and procedures of these committees are formulated by Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs. The Ministry also makes arrangements for holding their meetings both during the session and the inter-session period of Parliament.

Source: https://mpa.gov.in/sites/default/files/parlia7.pdf
Indian polity by M Laxmikanth pdf 6th edition. Chapter name-Parliamentary committees. Page no-596.

Q.47) What are the basic functions of Parliament in India?
1. Exercising control over the Council of Ministers
2. Implementation of the Laws
3. Final interpretation of Constitution
4. Amending various provisions of the Constitution
5. Enactment of Annual Financial Statement of Government
Select the correct answer using the code given below:
a) 1, 2 and 5 only
b) 3, 4 and 5 only
c) 1, 4 and 5 only
d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

Ans) c

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The Parliament occupies a central position and has a **multifunctional role.** It has legislative, executive, financial, constitutional, judicial, electoral powers and functions associated with it.

Statement 1 is correct: The Constitution of India established a parliamentary form of government in which the **Executive is responsible to the Parliament** for its policies and acts. Hence, the Parliament exercises control over the Executive through **question-hour, zero hour, half-an-hour discussion, short duration discussion, calling attention motion, adjournment motion, no-confidence motion, censure motion and**

www.freeupscmaterials.org

other discussions. It also supervises the activities of the Executive with the help of its committees like committee on government assurance, committee on subordinate legislation, committee on petitions, etc.
Statement 2 is incorrect: The primary function of Parliament is to **make laws** for the governance of the country or frame the laws according to current scenario of the society but the **implementation of laws is totally the role of the executive**. Executive has responsibility for the governance of a state.
Statement 3 is incorrect: Neither the executive nor the Parliament has the power to be the final interpreter and protector of the constitution, the **power lies in the hand of the Supreme Court.** The **final interpreter**, protector & guardian of the Indian Constitution is the **Supreme Court of India**.
Statement 4 is correct: Parliament is vested with the **powers to amend the Constitution** by way of addition, variation, or repeal of any provision. The major part of the Constitution can be amended by the Parliament with special majority, that is, a majority of the total membership of each House and a majority of not less than two thirds of the members present and voting in each House. Some other provisions of the Constitution can be amended by the Parliament with simple majority, that is, a majority of the members present and voting in each House of Parliament. Only a few provisions of the Constitution can be amended by the Parliament (by special majority) and with the consent of at least half of the state Legislatures (by simple majority).
Statement 5 is correct: According to Indian Constitution, no tax can be levied or collected and no expenditure can be incurred by the Executive except under the authority and with the approval of Parliament. Hence, the **budget (Annual Financial Statement)** is placed before the Parliament for its approval. The **enactment of the budget by the Parliament** legalises the receipts and expenditure of the government for the ensuing financial year.
Source: M laxmikant (chap 22- Parliament)
NCERT Class VIII: Social and Political Life III Ch 10

Q.48) Consider the following statements with reference to the Contingency Fund of India:
1. Any expenditure incurred from this fund does not require any kind of authorization from the Parliament.
2. The Corpus of this fund has been fixed by the Constitution.
3. The Cabinet Secretary holds the fund on behalf of the President of India.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
a) 1 and 2 only
b) 2 only
c) 1 and 3 only
d) None

Ans) d
Exp) Option d is the correct answer.
The Constitution of India provides for the following three kinds of funds for the Central government:
1) Consolidated Fund of India (Article 266)
2) Public Account of India (Article 266)
3) Contingency Fund of India (Article 267)
Statement 1 is incorrect: Article 267 of the Constitution mandates formation of a corpus under Contingency Fund of India to deal with any emergency situation. The Parliament enacted the contingency fund of India Act in 1950. **Any expenditure incurred from this fund requires a subsequent authorization from the Parliament.** And the corpus has to be replenished with the same amount later.
Statement 2 is incorrect: Article 267 of the Constitution mandates formation of a corpus under Contingency Fund of India to deal with any emergency situation. The constitution itself has not fixed the corpus of the fund. The fund size is enhanced from time to time by the government. In 2005, the corpus of

www.freeupscmaterial.org

the fund was raised from Rs 5 crore to Rs 500 crore. The government enhanced the Contingency Fund of India from Rs 500 crore to Rs 30,000 crore through the Finance Bill 2021. **The fund can be increased through a Finance Bill** when the Parliament is in the session. Or through Ordnance if the House is not in session.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The Union finance secretary (not the cabinet secretary) holds the fund on behalf of the President of India. The fund size is enhanced from time to time by the government. President can make advances out of it to meet unforeseen expenditure pending its authorization by the Parliament.

Source: https://www.business-standard.com/podcast/finance/what-is-the-contingency-fund-of-india-122011000060_1.html

Indian polity by M Laxmikanth pdf 6th edition. Chapter 22- parliament. Page no-546.

Q.49) Consider the following statements with respect to Parliamentary Forums in India:

1. They are constituted at the start of Budget Session each year.
2. They seek to provide a platform to the Members of Parliament to have interactions with subject experts on a matter.
3. The Speaker of Lok Sabha is the ex-officio Vice-President of all the parliamentary forums.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 2 and 3 only
c) 2 only
d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans) c

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The first Parliamentary Forum on Water Conservation and Management was constituted in the year 2005. At present, there are eight Parliamentary forums. Each Forum consists of not more than 31 members (excluding the President, Co-President and Vice-Presidents) out of whom not more than 21 are from the Lok Sabha and not more than 10 are from the Rajya Sabha.

Statement 1 is incorrect: They are permanent forums constituted by the Parliament to discuss specific issues of public importance. T**hey are not constituted every year** at the start of Budget Session. Also, the duration of the office of members of the forum is co-terminus with their membership in the respective Houses. A member may also resign from the forum by writing to the Speaker/Chairman

Statement 2 is correct: It seeks to provide a platform to the members to have interactions with the ministers concerned, experts and key officials from the nodal ministries with a view to have a focused and meaningful discussion on critical issues with a result-oriented approach for speeding up the implementation process.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The Speaker of Lok Sabha is the ex-officio President of all the Forums except the Parliamentary Forum on Population and Public Health wherein the Chairman of Rajya Sabha is the ex-officio President and the Speaker is the ex-officio, Co-President. The Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha, the Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha, the concerned Ministers and the Chairman of Departmentally-Related Standing Committees are the **ex-officio Vice Presidents** of the respective Forums.

Knowledge Base:

The first Parliamentary Forum on Water Conservation and Management was constituted in the year 2005. Subsequently, seven more Parliamentary forums were constituted. At present, there are eight Parliamentary forums namely:

1) Parliamentary Forum on Water Conservation and Management (2005)
2) Parliamentary Forum on Youth (2006)
3) Parliamentary Forum on Children (2006)

www.freeupscmaterials.org

4) Parliamentary Forum on Population and Public Health (2006)
5) Parliamentary Forum on Global Warming and Climate Change (2008)
6) Parliamentary Forum on Disaster Management (2011)
7) Parliamentary Forum on Artisans and Crafts-people (2013) 8. Parliamentary Forum on Millennium Development Goals (2013)
Source: M. Laxmikant 6th Edition.pdf

Q.50) Which one of the following agencies/organizations has released the National Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI)?
a) Department of Health and Research
b) Oxfam India
c) United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
d) NITI Aayog

Ans) d
Exp) Option d is the correct answer.
This question is based on the following articles "**One out of every two Bihar households is multidimensionally poor: NITI Aayog"** published in Down To Earth on 27th November 2021.
Option d is correct. India's first **National MPI (multidimensional poverty index)** has been released by **Niti Aayog**. National MPI seeks to measure poverty across its multiple dimensions and in effect complements existing poverty statistics based on per capita consumption expenditure.
Methodology: The index has used the globally accepted and robust methodology developed by the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) for Global MPI.
Indicators: The index is based on three equally weighted dimensions – health, education and standard of living – which in turn are represented by 12 indicators.
Key findings of the National MPI:
1) **Multidimensionally Poor**: Around 25.01% of the Indian population is multidimensionally poor. Bihar has the maximum percentage of the population living in poverty among all the States and the Union Territories, with over 50% of the population in the State identified as "multidimensionally poor".
2) **Poverty Criteria:** The report took a person spending less than Rs 47 a day in cities and one spending less than Rs 32 a day in villages as poor.
3) **Healthy Nutrition:** Some 37.6% of Indian households are deprived of healthy nutrition levels.
4) **Child and Adolescent Mortality:** Some 2.7% households have reported child and adolescent mortality. A household is deprived if any child or adolescent under 18 years of age has died in the household in the five-year period preceding the survey.
5) **Education:** At least 13.9% households have a member aged 10 years or older who has not completed six years of schooling. At least 6.4% of households have a school-aged child not attending school up to the age at which he/she would complete class 8.

Source: One out of every two Bihar households is multidimensionally poor: NITI Aayog-ForumIAS Blog

www.forumiasmaterials.org